

RICHART'S SHOES

You should select your footwear from the handsome line we are showing. We feel confident that our shoes will satisfy the most particular buyer. A style of shoe that may please your neighbor perhaps would be just the opposite from what you would fancy. This store's policy is to have a selection from which everybody can make a satisfactory choice. Allow us to show you

RICHART'S Shoe House.

NO 13 EAST SECOND STREET, SEYMOUR, INDIANA.

STORY IS DENIED

Iri Reynolds Says No One Can Say Those Securities Are Valueless.

NO ONE HAS SEEN THEM

That Much Talked of Strong Box, the Basis For Mrs. Chadwick's Loan, Has Not Been Opened.

Reynolds Says He Holds Securities as Trustee and Will Only Talk of Them on Witness Stand.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 10.—Iri Reynolds says that inasmuch as no one but himself had recently seen the securities which he holds for Mrs. Chadwick, the statement printed here that the securities are valueless is not authentic. Mr. Reynolds said: "There is no possible means whereby any information in regard to the genuineness of the securities that I hold of Mrs. Chadwick's could have become known. You may say for me that any rumors in regard to their being worthless could not have arisen from any knowledge gained about them in the last few days. This is true for the reason that they have been jealously guarded against inspection by anyone. Only on the witness stand will I make known what they are. The case cannot be tried out of court. These securities were turned over to me as trustee, and I will say nothing about them except as trustee." Regarding the attestation for \$5,000,000 which is said to have been made, Mr. Reynolds also declined to make a statement. "The attestation involves too many other matters," he replied, "and I may be able to enlighten the public about the securities and the attestation in the suit which Mr. Newton has brought against Mrs. Chadwick to recover the money that was loaned."

CREDULOUS MR. NEWTON

Man Who Precipitated the Case Talks of Those Securities.

Boston, Dec. 10.—Concerning the much discussed securities for \$5,000,000, Herbert D. Newton, the prosecution of whose claim against Mrs. Chadwick precipitated the latter's troubles, said: "Mrs. Chadwick represented to me that she had certain securities in the care of Iri Reynolds, and I was shown an affidavit signed by him stating that he had in his possession stocks and bonds belonging to her valued at \$5,000,000 and upward. I don't understand that there is any question concerning the genuineness of this affidavit, and on that I rest my case."

"Did you see the securities in question, Mr. Newton?" was asked. "I did not. I did not consider this necessary considering the name signed to the notes and Mr. Reynolds' name as voucher for her ownership of the \$5,000,000 in securities. I took the trouble to visit Cleveland. I did not succeed in seeing Mr. Reynolds, but I was assured by one who must have known that the securities were actually in existence and were in Mr. Reynolds' care."

Asked if he could give any description of these securities, Mr. Newton said: "A list of them was furnished me and that list was accompanied by a sworn statement that Mrs. Chadwick's semi-annual income from the securities was \$175,000. The face value of these securities was much more than \$5,000,000. That sum was named as a conservative estimate of their actual value. The most of them were dividend-paying stocks."

Mr. Newton admitted that his chance

of getting anything from the tangle of Mrs. Chadwick's affairs is slim. "I believe, however, that if the woman had not been driven to bay so quickly I should have received my money," he said. "There were certain influences working that might eventually have resulted in a settlement in full."

"Perhaps that strong-box held by Iri Reynolds in the vaults of the Wade Park National bank in Cleveland may contain ample funds to recompense you, Mr. Newton," suggested the reporter. The banker smiled grimly. "What would you give for those securities on a gamble?" he asked.

ANOTHER NIGHT

Was Passed by Mrs. Chadwick Behind the Bars.

New York, Dec. 10.—After a day full of disagreement with her counsel as to whether she should waive examination and go to Cleveland, Mrs. Chadwick finally consented to remain another night in the Tombs, but expressed the hope that she might leave there today.

Mrs. Chadwick had made up her mind to ignore the advice of her local counsel, Messrs. Carpenter and Powers, and go to Cleveland to stand trial there, when late yesterday afternoon she received a telegram from her Cleveland counsel, Judge Albaugh, asking her not to return to Cleveland just yet. This telegram caused her to remain over night.

Lawyer Carpenter then notified Marshal Henkel of her intention and the marshal and United States Commissioner Shields announced that they would not remain at their offices after the usual closing hour on her account, as they did the night before.

Lawyers Carpenter and Powers had a conference after leaving Mrs. Chadwick, and Mr. Carpenter said that nothing further would be done for the night. In regard to what would be done later, Mr. Carpenter was non-committal.

"I do not care to say whether we have given up the question of securing bail or not," said Mr. Carpenter, "but if you know anybody who is willing to go on her bond send him along. We could have obtained bail today were it not for the notoriety attached to the case."

Mrs. Chadwick was led to her cell in the Tombs prison by an attendant. To the matron, Mrs. Chadwick said: "I am glad I am not going to Cleveland tonight. I am tired enough to sleep well, I think, even behind those awful bars. It has been an extremely trying day and I am thankful that it is over. I do not care to go through many more such ordeals."

Grand Jury's Action.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 10.—After hearing two witnesses in the Chadwick case the grand jury adjourned until Monday morning. The witnesses were L. T. Whitney, a director, and A. B. Spear, cashier, of the Citizens National Bank of Oberlin. At the end of the hearing Prosecutor Keeler said the testimony gave him jurisdiction in the alleged forgery case because the notes were negotiated in this county. The hearing was brief because of the non-arrival of witnesses, the most important of which was C. T. Beckwith, president of the Citizens National Bank, who was unable to be present because of illness. Prosecutor Keeler hopes that he will be able to appear Monday. Another important witness expected on Monday is Receiver Lyon of the Oberlin bank.

RETREAT BEGINS

Beleaguered Russians Beginning to Get Out of Port Arthur.

London, Dec. 10.—According to the Morning Post's Shanghai dispatches the Port Arthur forces, with the exception of those manning the forts, have already retreated to Laotie mountain.

Details continue to filter in of the capture of 203-Meter hill. The Daily Telegraph's correspondent before Port Arthur explains that the final capture was due to a strong and sustained Japanese feint against the eastern fortifications on the night of Dec. 5 and the position of 203-Meter hill being an enfilading one, forced the Russians to evacuate without a contest a parallel line of semi-permanent defenses extending eastward and irregularly over the slopes within a half mile north of Elise mountain. The Japanese casualties at 203-Meter hill alone exceeded the total of the battle of Nanshan, according to Tokio dispatches. The Japanese after the capture of 203-Meter hill anticipated a terrible bombardment from the Russian forts and made preparations accordingly, but the Russians remained strangely quiet.

Sounding Port Arthur's Knell.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 10.—The Russian authorities evidently are not yet satisfied as to the truth of the report of the destruction of the remainder of the Port Arthur squadron, as the censor has not yet permitted the publication of foreign reports to that effect. Nevertheless these reports are in the hands of the admiralty, where they are considered as sounding the knell of the Port Arthur fleet. The only regret expressed is that they did not go out for a final fight or sink in deep water where they would be beyond hope of salvage.

Safe Was Blown to Pieces.

Frederick, Md., Dec. 10.—An attempt was made to rob the Mount Air bank. The iron safe was blown to pieces, but before the robbers could open an inner door, beyond which lay \$4,000 and securities of the institution, the thieves were frightened away by citizens of the town.

A BLOODY HISTORY

Indictment Upon Which Von Plehve's Assassin Will Be Tried.

A FAR-REACHING PLOT

The Brotherhood Behind This Revolutionary Deed Was Organized to Overthrow Autocracy.

Minute Details of Conspiracy Which Culminated in the Act of Sasonoff.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 10.—The indictment upon which Sasonoff, the assassin of Minister of the Interior Von Plehve and Sikorski, his accomplice, will be tried on Dec. 13, is a formidable document reciting the history of the assassination plot and details of the crime, and revealing for the first time interesting facts about the accused and confessions made by them, winding up with the formal charge. The document states that both Sasonoff and Sikorski belonged to a fighting organization of social revolutionaries, the central committee of which was organized abroad in 1902 and the organ of which was Revolutionary Russia. The object of the organization was to overthrow the autocracy and replace it with a republican socialist regime. The document describes the manner in which the party organized secret circles for the distribution of proclamations among the peasants, stirring up university students, fomenting agrarian disturbances, inciting soldiers to mutiny and also preaching terrorism and the murder of statesmen who sustained the autocracy and took steps to suppress political disturbances. It lays the murders of Sipiagin, Von Plehve's predecessor in the office of minister of the interior, and Bogdanovitch, governor general of Ufa, and the attempts on the life of Prince John Obolensky, governor general of Finland, and Pobedonostzeff, procurator general of the holy synod, at the door of the fighting organization, which the document says condemned Von Plehve to death soon after his appointment. The first attempt on Von Plehve's life was frustrated by the accidental explosion on April 13 at the Hotel Du Nord, by which Pokatloff was blown up with a bomb similar to the one that killed Von Plehve.

The indictment reveals in this connection a scandal in high life, a room adjoining the one in the Hotel Du Nord, occupied by Pokatloff having been occupied by a naval cadet and a lady of noble birth, who, however, escaped death by being at supper at the time. The execution of Von Plehve's sentence, the indictment says, was then undertaken by Sasonoff, aged twenty-five, formerly a student at the Moscow university and the son of a merchant of Birsik, and Sammel Nevi Sikorski, aged twenty, a leather worker of Knyshin, in the province of Grodno. Sasonoff had been twice tried for treasonable offenses, first in 1900 and again in 1902. On the latter occasion he was exiled to Siberia for five years, but escaped abroad on his way into exile. The movements of both the accused showed that the murder was planned for the occasion of one of Minister Von Plehve's weekly journeys on Thursdays to the railroad station on the way to Peterhoff to report to the emperor. Sikorski had previously made two trips to St. Petersburg on Wednesdays. On Wednesday, July 27, the day before the murder, he went to Ostroff (a station on the St. Petersburg-Warsaw railroad), having provided himself at Vilna with a cloak of the naval pattern, where he left a handbag containing his linen and fifteen revolver cartridges. The morning of the murder Sasonoff and Sikorski met on a bridge over the canal near the Warsaw station, each being armed with an infernal machine, the ingenuity of which is minutely described. Enclosed in tin was explosive magnesian dynamite. The detonating apparatus consisted of glass tubes filled with sulphuric acid, the glass tubes being attached to lead weights so arranged that the tubes would break whichever way the bomb fell. Outside the acid tubes were larger tubes filled with chlorate of potash and sugar which would be ignited by the acid and in turn fire fulminate of mercury, which would detonate the dynamite. Tubes constructed on exactly the same principle were found in Pokatloff's baggage.

The indictment then describes in detail the murder of Von Plehve and his coachman, Filipoff; how Sasonoff was stationed in front of the Warsaw hotel and Sikorski beyond the canal bridge, and says the bomb struck the carriage between Von Plehve and the coachman, killing both of them and injuring eleven others. Sasonoff was knocked over by the explosion, losing consciousness, but his wounds turned out to be not serious.

To Press Pure Food Bill.

Washington, Dec. 10.—When the senate meets on Monday Secretary Hayburn, during the morning hour, will move for unanimous consent to take up the pure food bill. It is said an agreement has been reached to consider the measure until it is placed at 2 p. m. by the unfinished business.

Home Made

Have your cake, muffins, and tea biscuit home-made. They will be fresher, cleaner, more tasty and wholesome.

Royal Baking Powder helps the house wife to produce at home, quickly and economically, fine and tasty cake, the raised hot-biscuit, puddings, the frosted layer-cake, crisp cookies, crullers, crusts and muffins, with which the ready-made food found at the bake-shop or grocery does not compare.

Royal is the greatest of bake-day helps.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

THE DAILY PAPERS

Have Thrown Obstacles in the Way of Jury in the Gillespie Case.

JURY HARD TO SELECT

The Very Men Who Would Make the Best Jurors--the Newspaper Readers--Are Legally Disqualified.

It Is Going to Be Difficult to Find Twelve Men Who Are Not Newspaper Readers.

Rising Sun, Ind., Dec. 10.—Rural free delivery of mails and daily papers are going to make it difficult to get a jury to try James Gillespie for the murder of his sister, Elizabeth Gillespie. There is a probability that a jury cannot be impaneled in this county in this case. One hundred jurors had been examined and dismissed when court rose last evening, and neither the state nor the defense had progressed to the point in examining talesmen on the question of capital punishment. There is a very strong sentiment against capital punishment in this county, as was shown in the selecting of the jury for the first trial. Another forty talesmen reported today. Each day of this delay is costing the county, already deeply in debt, \$400.

Should the effort to secure a jury fail, the legislature may be forced to take cognizance of new conditions in Indiana, which, under demanded close interpretation of the law on qualifications for jury duty disqualify the most competent men, the newspaper readers. The law provides that those who have heard or read a report of testimony in a previous trial and made up their minds decidedly shall not sit as jurors. Whether newspaper reports of trials should be classed as a report of testimony was questioned by the defense after fifty talesmen had been set aside, principally because they were daily paper readers, and had formed decided opinions from published reports of testimony submitted in the previous trial. Judge Cornet took the matter under advisement.

DEFENDANT TESTIFIES

Alleged Bank Wrecker Denies Improper Intent.

Indianapolis, Dec. 10.—The defendant was on the witness stand for several hours in federal court in the case of the United States against John H. Wood, the former president and cashier of the bankrupt First National bank of Matthews. During the entire time he was subject to the direct examination of his attorney, who sought to show that there was no intent to defraud in the entries that had been made by him and in the loans that he had made, and that the consequent losses had been due to lack of proper judgment rather than to any intent to defraud. Every detail of the case was gone into carefully and Wood proved a good witness in his own defense.

He told of the various loans that had been made by the bank at his direction, and that had afterward proved comparatively worthless. He dwelt upon the apparently prosperous condition of the various concerns, whose securities were afterward found among the assets of the bank when it went into the hands of a receiver. Every question that would tend to show the intent of Wood at the time that he had made many of the loans was contested by the prosecution, and was verbally fought out before the court. It is thought that the case will be in the hands of the jury tonight.

Boys at Realistic Play.

Goshen, Ind., Dec. 10.—Two sons of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Method of Millersburg heard their parents read about a hanging, and they proceeded to emulate an execution in a manner peculiar to themselves. The elder boy tied a rope about his neck and the younger brother was to be the executioner. When he gave the command the elder brother jumped from a chair. Mrs. Method heard the noise and investigated. She found her child gasping for breath and unconscious. He was resuscitated with difficulty.

Horticulturists Want Aid. Indianapolis, Dec. 10.—Important action was taken by the Indiana Horticultural society before its adjournment looking to the future development of the society into an organization of strength to Indiana fruit growers. By a unanimous vote it was decided to recommend the appropriation by the general assembly of \$5,000 to be used in furthering the interests of the fruit growers.

A Fatal Farewell. Hammond, Ind., Dec. 10.—Arthur Clausen arranged to go hunting with a friend, but as he was passing out of the door and turned to bid his mother good-by, the weapon accidentally struck the lintel and was discharged, blowing off the top of his head. He died in his mother's arms. Clausen was eighteen years old.

Stole Sunday School Organ. Madison, Ind., Dec. 10.—Some time during the night thieves entered the Paramore Sunday school room in this county, stealing the organ and carrying it away in a covered spring wagon.

Without Much Discussion. Washington, Dec. 10.—The house passed the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill practically as it came from committee. The civil service commission provisions disposed of there was no long debate on any item. Throughout the session the policy of retrenchment held full sway and all attempts to increase salaries failed. The house passed a resolution to adjourn on Dec. 21 until Jan. 4 for the Christmas holiday.

Hints of Cabinet Changes. Washington, Dec. 10.—That there may be changes in the diplomatic service and possibly in the cabinet is evident from a statement made by a high official of the state department replying to an inquiry in which he said that the president expects all the members of his cabinet and all ambassadors and ministers to send in their resignations between now and the fourth of March.

Sour Stomach

No appetite, loss of strength, nervousness, headache, constipation, bad breath, general debility, sour risings, and catarrh of the stomach are all due to indigestion. Kodol cures indigestion. This new discovery represents the natural juices of digestion as they exist in a healthy stomach, combined with the greatest known tonic and reconstructive properties. Kodol Dyspepsia Cure does not only cure indigestion and dyspepsia, but this famous remedy cures all stomach troubles by cleansing, purifying, sweetening and strengthening the mucous membrane lining the stomach.



Kodol

DIGESTS WHAT YOU EAT

Gives Health to the Sick and Strength to the Weak.

Bottles only, \$1.00 Size holding 2 1/2 times the trial size, which sells for 50c. Prepared by E. C. DeWitt & Co., Chicago.

W. F. Peter Drug Co., A. J. Pellens.

Insanity, Death or Health?

No. 2807 Locust Street, St. Louis, Mo., March 29, 1903.

I was a victim of sleeplessness and extreme nervousness for eighteen months, unable to get a proper night's rest and feeling tired and worn out continually. I was easily irritated and hysterical at the slightest provocation, but Wine of Cardui gave me great relief. Within a week after I began using it I had my first real good night's rest that I had had for months. My appetite was soon restored, my general system toned up and nervousness became a thing of the past.

Harriet O. Best

CHAPELAIN, LADIES OF HONOR, NO. 97.

WINE OF CARDUI

We want to call your attention to the complete and immediate relief Mrs. Best secured by taking Wine of Cardui. Within a week after she began taking Wine of Cardui, Mrs. Best had her first good night's rest for eighteen months. Her restlessness was caused by nervousness and Wine of Cardui, as the best menstrual regulator, has no superior in the world as a medicine to soothe a woman's nerves. Nervousness and hysteria are warnings of the approach of insanity and if relief is not secured the end can only be the asylum or the grave. With such an outlook as this before her, no suffering woman can reasonably refuse to give Wine of Cardui a trial. It brings a cure that thousands of women have sought for in vain. Will you secure a bottle of Wine of Cardui today and start treatment?

All druggists sell \$1.00 bottles Wine of Cardui.

HEALTH AND VITALITY

DR. MOTT'S NEW WHEAT TONIC
The great iron and tonic pill and restorative for men and women, produces strength and vitality, builds up the system and renews the normal vigor, bringing health and happiness. 60 doses in a box. For sale by all druggists, or we will mail it, securely wrapped, on receipt of price, \$1.00 per box, 6 boxes for \$5.00. Dr. Mott's Chemical Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

A. J. PELLENS, Druggist, Seymour, Ind.

The FILIGREE BALL

...By...

ANNA KATHARINE GREEN,
Author of "The Mystery of Agatha Webb,"
"Lost Man's Lane," Etc.

Copyright, 1903, by the Bobbe-Merrill Co.

Today's installment of the Filigree Ball is omitted on account of beginning the "Life and Adventures of Santa Claus" in today's issue. The Filigree Ball will be continued Monday and the Santa Claus story next Saturday.

Porterfield Convicted.
Mt. Vernon, Ind., Dec. 10.—The jury returned a verdict of guilty in the trial of Horace Porterfield for the murder of Richard Squanson of Evansville in September last, and recommended life imprisonment.

Corn Shredder Casualty.
Delphi, Ind., Dec. 10.—John Johnson, a well-known farmer near this city, while working with a corn shredder, caught his arm in the machinery and amputation above the elbow was required.

Despondent Woman's Suicide.
VanBuren, Ind., Dec. 10.—Dessie Myers, hearing that her father was seriously ill at Marion and despondent along other lines, committed suicide with carbolic acid.

A brave patrolman.
Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 10.—A negro who attacked two women in the street last night narrowly escaped lynching at the hands of an angry crowd. A single patrolman with drawn revolver held the crowd at bay until the patrol wagon arrived.

TERSE TELEGRAMS
The Finnish diet is in session.
War Secretary Taft has arranged for the employment of Jamaican laborers on the Panama canal.

Business failures for the week number 231, against 184 last week and 241 in the like week in 1903.

Elias Johnson, a farmer living near Oreaville, Mo., shot and killed his wife, believing someone was stealing his chickens.

Indiana statistics show that there were 28,905 marriages and 3,763 divorces in the state last year, or one divorce for every 7.42 marriages.

Enlargement of the powers of the interstate commerce commission is one of the questions which will be pressed vigorously at the present session of congress.

The dry kiln of the Grand Rapids School Seat Furniture company, at Grand Rapids, Mich., containing 350,000 feet of hardwood lumber, was burned. Loss, \$75,000.

In the estimates for the diplomatic and consular service forwarded to congress, recommendations are made for increases in the salaries of a large number of officials in the service.

At the final session of the National Civil Service Reform League President Roosevelt was severely criticised for the exemptions in the service through executive orders made by him during the past three years.

NO MAN IS STRONGER THAN HIS STOMACH

When Sandow poses and the muscles ridge his back and knot his arms, we think we have before us the very secret of strength in those magnificent muscles. But we haven't. Starve Sandow, or what is practically the same thing, let him be dyspeptic, and his muscle would soon fail. Strength is made from food properly digested and assimilated, and no man is stronger than his stomach, because when the stomach is diseased digestion and assimilation are imperfect.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. It enables the perfect digestion and assimilation of food so that the body is nourished into perfect health and strength.

"I had what my physician called indigestion. He gave me medicine for the trouble but it did me no good," writes Mr. W. H. Wells, of Willard, N.C. "I wrote to Dr. Pierce and stated my case. He sent me a descriptive list and hygienic rules. I carried out these as best I could, bought six bottles of his 'Golden Medical Discovery' and commenced taking it. A few days later I noticed a great change. Felt like a new man. Before I began the use of the 'Golden Medical Discovery' I suffered greatly with pain in stomach, my nerves seemed all run-down, I was very thin in flesh, but now can eat heartily and sleep good at night."

Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send twenty-one one-cent stamps for the paper-covered book, or thirty-one stamps for the cloth-bound volume. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.



GOLD MINE

IS
Santa Claus' Headquarters.
NEW FRESH GOODS AT LOWEST PRICES.

We are ready for The Holiday trade. We have everything that's fit to sell in Holiday goods suitable for gifts, appropriate useful and sensible. We invite an early inspection while the assortments are complete. We show you in all the lines we carry worth and quality for the price. Every department is stocked to meet the wants of young and old, rich and poor.

Dress Goods and Silk Department.
Offers splendid values for Holiday purchase.

Linen and White Goods Department.
Has excellent selections for the housekeeper and always appreciated.

Blankets, Comforts and Woolen Department
Makes useful and warm gifts.

Cloak, Fur and Suit Department.
We lead in variety, quality and low price.

Hosiery, Glove and Handkerchief Department.
We are amply prepared to supply the demand in selection and values.

Carpets, Rugs and Curtains
Are always welcome as gifts.

MILLINERY DEPARTMENT.

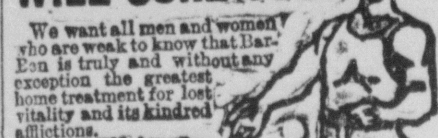
Our Economy Busy Basement.

Large preparations have been made, and better values have never been given to the Holiday shopper. On our 5c, 10c, and 25c counter you will find pieces unable to be duplicated at double the price. Our better goods in China and Bric-a-brac show, art, knowledge and distinct values. In connection with our strong purchasing power we guarantee better values than heretofore. We advise early selections while we are able to give the best of attention. Don't wait until the last day to do your Holiday purchasing.

The Gold Mine
DEPARTMENT STORE

BAR-BEN

THE GREAT RESTORATIVE
WILL CURE YOU.



We want all men and women who are weak to know that Bar-Ben is truly and without exception the greatest home treatment for loss of vitality and its kindred ailments. BAR-BEN is a true nerve tonic and blood purifier. It puts new vigor and perfect health into the weak nerves and broken down system. It makes the appetite keen, the digestion perfect and promotes refreshing sleep; body, brain and nerves are built up rapidly under its use. BAR-BEN is the scientific, natural and positive cure for all nervous diseases, loss of vitality, night emissions and excesses, the effects of overwork, worry, brain fatigue, the excessive use of tobacco, opium or liquor. No matter what has caused your trouble, Bar-Ben will bring you back to health. Don't wait another day. Get some Bar-Ben and begin taking it. The sooner you commence the sooner your weakness will vanish. All druggists, 50 cents or mailed on receipt of price. Write for free sample. THE BAR-BEN REMEDIES CO., Cleveland, O. WHOLESALE: W. F. HILL CO.

Opera House!

J. E. BARTLETT, Mgr.

Wednesday, Dec. 14.

FUN FOR THE WEARY!

Elmer Walters' Characteristic Success

A Thoroughbred Tramp.

Most Wonderful Play of its Class
A Guaranteed Laugh Producer.

Prices 25, 35 and 50 cents.

Opera House.

Thursday Eve. Dec. 15

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT

Seneff's Ladies' Military Band

25 PEOPLE 25

Assisted by Miss Katharyne Gibson, Contralto.

Prices 25, 35 and 50 cents.

THE REPUBLICAN

AT C. SMITH, Editors and Publishers.
D. W. A. REMY.

Entered at the Seymour, Indiana Postoffice as Second-class Matter.

DAILY.
One Year.....\$5.00
Six Months.....2.50
Three Months.....1.25
One Month......45
Week......10

WEEKLY
1 Year in Advance.....\$1.00

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1904.

KEEP an eye out for the advertising columns for Christmas bargains. Your holiday shopping will be made easier if you keep up with the announcements of the merchants who advertise.

DEVELOPMENTS in the case of Mrs. Chadwick are showing that she was not the only one that had a mania for money. She may be more guilty than all the rest but it was the greed of others that led them to enter into conspiracy with her. They may plead that they were misled by her false representations but that does not excuse them altogether. Common honesty should have prompted them to make a more thorough investigation before taking such long chances.

RAILROAD RUMBLINGS.

The B. & O. S-W. has placed an order for 1000 new steel coal cars for an early delivery. They will greatly increase the road facilities for handling the traffic.

Nearly all trains were late today. Owing to the heavy snow they could not make good time.

No last year ones at T. R. Carter's.

Was Good Show.

"The Great Lafayette" drew a big crowd last night and the show proved a very entertaining one just as we predicted.

There was a little hitch with the orchestra which came near being a strike but differences were adjusted and the musicians went to work.

Lost Pocket Book.

A lady, who was accompanying a corpse from Logansport to Greenfield, changed cars here this morning, leaving her pocket book on No. 4. She did not miss it until No. 4 had pulled out. A message was sent to North Vernon in the hope of recovering the book there.

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature
Chas. H. Fletcher

OUR CHURCHES.

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH.
Corner of Fourth and Poplar. Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Preaching 10:45 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Senior Endeavor at 6:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Thursday at 7:30 p. m. You have a cordial invitation to attend any or all of our services. Morning subject: The divinity of Christ. Evening Subject: The Bible. HARLEY JACKSON, Pastor.

FIRST M. E. CHURCH.
Corner Ewing and Third streets. Class meeting at 9:30 a. m. Preaching by the pastor at 10:30 a. m. Sunday school at 2:30 p. m. Epworth League 6:15 p. m. Preaching at 7:00 p. m. J. A. SARGENT, Pastor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
There will be no preaching service at the Presbyterian church tomorrow.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.
Southwest corner of Walnut and Tipton streets. Preaching every Sabbath. Sunday school, 9:15 a. m. Morning service at 10:30 a. m. Evening service, 7:00 p. m. B. Y. P. U. meeting Sunday evening at 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday at 7:30 p. m. All are made cordially welcome. Rev. T. C. Probert, of Galveston, will preach tomorrow morning and evening.

GERMAN M. E. CHURCH.
Sunday school at 9 a. m. Preaching by the pastor in German at 10:30 a. m. and in English at 7 p. m. Young people's meeting at 6:15 p. m. C. E. SEVERINGHAUS, pastor.

HOLINESS CHRISTIAN CHURCH.
On Ewing street, between Second and Third streets. Sunday school, 9:30 a. m. Services at 10:30 a. m., 3:00 p. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting on Tuesday and Friday nights at 7:30 p. m. All will be made welcome. Rev. Elma Innis, pastor.

Meetings still continue but the last chance to hear Bro. Compton will be Sunday night. Services all day on Sunday, at 10:30 a. m. and 3:00 and 7:30 p. m. Everyone cordially invited.

EV'G. PROT. ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.
Northeast corner of Walnut and Tipton. Morning service 10:15 a. m. Sunday school 9:00 a. m. Evening service first Sunday in month English, third Sunday in month German, at 7:00. Christian Endeavor every Sunday evening at 6:15.

REV. A. EGLI, Pastor.

GERMAN LUTHERAN EMMANUELS.
Corner Walnut and Oak streets. Rev. Philip Schmidt, pastor. Preaching every Sabbath. Morning service 10:00 a. m. Evening service, 7:00 p. m. Children's catechism after morning service.

CITY MISSION.
East Third Street. Services every Sunday at 10:30 a. m., 2:30 and 7:00 p. m. Services Monday and Thursday nights at 7:30. Everybody invited.

ST. AMBROSE CATHOLIC CHURCH.
South Chestnut street, near Brown. Father Conrad, pastor. Services every Sabbath. Low mass 7 a. m. High mass 9 a. m. Catechism 2:30 p. m. Vespers and benediction 3 p. m.

Bilious Colic Prevented.

Take a double dose of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy as soon as the first indication of the disease appears a threatened attack may be warded off. Hundreds of people use the remedy in this way with perfect success. For sale by C. W. Milhous.

When you want a pleasant purgative try Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They are easy to take and produce no nausea, griping or other disagreeable effect. For sale by C. W. Milhous.

Santa Claus Defenders.

The First Baptist Sunday school will give a cantata, "Santa Claus Defenders" on Christmas eve. Last year the school gave one of the best Christmas entertainments in its history and this year promises the same standard of excellence.

RECTOR OF ST. LUKE'S.

Ashburnham, Ontario, Testifies to the Good Qualities of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

ASHBURNHAM, Ont., April 19, 1903—I think it is only right that I should tell you what a wonderful effect Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has produced. The day before Easter I was so distressed with a cold and cough that I did not think to be able to take any duties the next day, as my voice was almost choked by the cough. The same day I received an order from you for a bottle of your cough remedy. I at once procured a sample bottle, and took about three doses of the medicine. To my great relief the cough and cold had completely disappeared and I was able to preach three times on Easter day. I know that this rapid and effective cure was due to your cough remedy. I make this testimonial without solicitation, being thankful to have found such a God-sent Remedy.

Respectfully yours,
E. A. LANGFELD, M. A.,
Rector of St. Luke's Church.
To Chamberlain Medicine Co.
This remedy is for sale by C. W. Milhous.

Obituary.

Mrs. Minnie Andrews Hawley was born in Vernon, Ind., October 22nd, 1838. She was the child of praying christian parents, her father and grandfather Andrews having both been elders in the early days of the Presbyterian church of Vernon.

As a girl and a young woman she was unusually gentle, sweet and amiable. She was as attractive in person as in character, and one who knew her intimately described her in Whittier's lines—

"Sweet promptings unto kindly deeds,
Are in her very look;
We read her face as one who reads
A true and holy book."

She was married May 16th 1872, to Rev. R. E. Hawley, and at once entered upon the busy life of a pastor's wife. Wherever their lot was cast, whether in city, town or village, she was the same wise, gentle counselor and friend to the people of her husband's church. The many, many friends in Cincinnati and Cleves, Ohio, St. Paul, Minn., Washington, Acton, Edinburg and other places in Indiana, cherish sweet and tender memories of her life among them. She was ever ready to aid by word or deed in whatever was to be done for the glory of God or the helping to the world. Unless detained by ill health she was always in her place, doing the work appointed her. "She hath done what she could."

Cambridge City was her last home. In September Mrs. Hawley and her daughter went to Indianapolis to spend a few days, and there their death came most tragically Sept. 23rd. She was fatally injured by an automobile driving rapidly through the streets, and after a month of suffering the end came at St. Vincent's hospital, Oct. 22, 1904, on her 66th birthday. To our human sight it seems a terrible, an awful catastrophe, a dark and mysterious Providence. We can only echo Christ's own words: "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."

The body, beautiful in death, was taken by loving friends to the home of her brother, Mr. J. H. Andrews, at Seymour, and the next day was laid to rest in the beautiful cemetery beside her first born and other beloved dead, there to wait the resurrection morn "And so He giveth His beloved sleep." The funeral services at Indianapolis were conducted by her lifelong friend Rev. J. Clark Burt. At Seymour by a kind and valued friend, the Rev. T. W. Northcott, of Brownstown, and the Rev. Dr. Sargent, of Seymour.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be restored forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circular free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by druggists, 75c.
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Neglect It and Then Regret It!

You now have your babies and other small children, but have no picture of them. Winter is coming on with the danger of colds, croup and other diseases of children. You may take them through the winter and may not. Should you lose one or more and have no picture of them you would then regret your neglect. Bring your little ones and big ones also to us right by the post office and get photos. If you can not get high priced get cheap ones, but get Photographs of some kind. We seldom fail with babies.

PLATTER & CO.

We Do It The Fair Way--

There are different ways of selling coal. One way is to make as much as possible out of customers. Our method is to give them values—the best value possible for the money.

Honest Tons of Coal and Coke—One Price to All.

You'll Get Good Values in The Following Named Grades of Money Saving Coal.

Pittsburg and "Lincoln" Youghhebeny lump, "Winefred" Kanawha lump and Black Creek lump. To these there is but little waste—but few "clinkers" or ashes.

We especially recommend Pittsburg and "Lincoln" Youghhebeny lump.

THE JOHN EBNER ICE CO.
Phones Nos. 4 and 29. Office at Ice Plant.

Revival at Holiness Christian Church.

There was a large attendance. The preachers text was: Romans 6, 23. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Every one has an eternal existence but not eternal life. I am talking to people who think they are alive when God sees that they are dead in trespasses and sin. Many people think they will be saved when they are ashamed of the Anchor of life. There is no name hated so much as the humble name Jesus: Death does not mean to be cast into oblivion. The second death means eternal separation from the presence of God. The lake of fire that men are eternally cast into from the presence of God.

Many people want to get saved but don't want to come down and take the humble way with Jesus. What will it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?

By your conduct you are a friend of Jesus, or against Him.

Why do you call me Lord and do not the things I command you. You can not be a Christian and sin. On one occasion Jesus said "Go in peace and sin no more lest a worse thing come on you."

Services every night at 7:30, every afternoon at 2:30. Every one cordially invited.

It Pays.

Since advertising some horses for sale in the REPUBLICAN a few weeks ago M. F. Bottorff has sold five young horses for \$600. This week he sold a fine moneydort horse to Henry Carr, of Surprise, for \$150. The sales have paid many times for the small amount invested in the advertising.

Be Quick.

Not a minute should be lost when a child shows symptoms of croup. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough appears, will prevent the attack. It never fails, and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by C. W. Milhous.

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A Busy Medicine for Busy People. Brings Golden Health and Renewed Vigor. A specific for Constipation, Indigestion, Liver and Kidney Troubles, Pimples, Eczema, Impure Blood, Bad Breath, Sluggish Bowels, Headache and Backache. It's Rocky Mountain Tea in tablet form, 35 cents a box. Genuine made by HOLLISTER DRUG COMPANY, Madison, Wis. GOLDEN NUGGETS FOR SALLOW PEOPLE

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INFANTS & CHILDREN
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A perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP.
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You must come, make your selections and be yourself the judge.
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GENERAL MANAGER.
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and every four weeks thereafter. Thousands who have doctored with OLD STYLE DOCTORS have had their eyes opened to their real troubles, and have been cured by the New Method Treatment employed exclusively by the physicians of the Mayo Medical and Surgical Institute.
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30 Years Experience.
THE FAMOUS PINKEN LIGHT CURE is being used at the Institute in treating CANCER, LUPUS and all skin diseases without pain.
Dr. Gillespie TREATS EPILEPSY, Lung Trouble and Catarrh successfully by his NEW INHALATION METHOD.
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CANCERS and TUMORS CURED WITHOUT PAIN or USE of KNIFE.
Dr. Gillespie uses NEW REMEDIES. His METHOD is entirely NEW to the profession. He has devoted years of study in perfecting THE NEW METHOD TREATMENT.
All chronic diseases that are curable treated successfully, such as diseases of the Brain, Heart, Lungs, Throat, Eyes and Ears. Stomach, Liver, Kidney, (Bright's Disease,) Bladder, Rectum, Female Diseases, Impotency, Gleet, Seminal Emissions, Nervous Diseases, Catarrh, Rupture, Piles, Stricture, Diabetes, etc., etc.
After an examination we will tell you just what we can do for you. If we cannot benefit or cure you, we will frankly tell you so. Patients can be treated successfully at a distance. Write for examination and question blanks. Street cars and carriages direct to Institute.
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The Little Adventures of Santa Claus

By L. Frank Baum
Author of
"The Wonderful Wizard of Oz"
"The Master Key"
"Father Goose"

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Chapter First Burzee



HAVE you heard of the great Forest of Burzee? Nurse used to sing of it when I was a child. She sang of the big tree trunks, standing close together, with their roots intertwining below the earth and their branches intertwining above it; of their rough coating of bark and queer, gnarled limbs; of the bushy foliage that roofed the entire Forest, save where the sunbeams found a path through which to touch the ground in little spots and to cast weird and curious shadows over the mosses, the lichens and the drifts of dried leaves.

The Forest of Burzee is mighty and grand and awesome to those who steal beneath its shade. Coming from the sunlit meadows into its mazes it seems at first gloomy, then pleasant, and afterward filled with never ending delights. For hundreds of years it has flourished in all its magnificence, the silence of its inclosure unbroken save by the chirp of busy chipmunks, the growl of wild beasts and the songs of birds.

Yet Burzee has its inhabitants, for all this. Nature peopled it in the beginning with Fairies, Knooks, Ryks and Nymphs. As long as the Forest stands it will be a home, a refuge and a playground to these sweet immortals, who revel undisturbed in its depths. Civilization has never yet reached Burzee. Will it ever, I wonder?

Chapter Second The Child of the Forest

ANCE, so long ago our great-grandfathers could scarcely have heard it mentioned, there lived within the great Forest of Burzee a wood nymph named Neelle. She was closely related to the mighty Queen Zurline, and her home was beneath the shade of a widespread oak. Once every year, on Budding Day, when the

trees put forth their new buds, Neelle held the Golden Chalice of Ak to the lips of the Queen, who drank therefrom to the prosperity of the Forest. So you see she was a nymph of some importance, and was highly regarded because of her beauty and grace.

When she was created she could not have told; Queen Zurline could not have told; the great Ak himself could not have told. It was long ago, when the world was new and nymphs were needed to guard the forests and to minister to the wants of the young trees. Then, on some day not remembered, Neelle sprang into being—radiant, lovely, straight and slim as the sapling she was created to guard.

Her hair was the color that lines a chestnut bur; her eyes were blue in the sunlight and purple in the shade; her cheeks bloomed with the faint pink that edges the clouds at sunset; her lips were full red, pouting and sweet. For costume she adopted oak leaf green—all the wood nymphs dress in that color and know no other so desirable. Her dainty feet were sandal clad, while her head remained bare of covering other than her silken tresses.

Neelle's duties were few and simple. She kept hurling weeds from growing beneath her trees and sapping the earth food required by her charges. She frightened away the Gadslogs, who took evil delight in flying against the tree trunks and wounding them so that they drooped and died from the poisonous contact. In dry seasons she carried water from the brooks and pools and moistened the roots of her thirsty dependents.

That was in the beginning. The weeds had now learned to avoid the forests where wood nymphs dwelt; the leathisome Gadslogs no longer dared come nigh; the trees had become old and sturdy and could bear the drought better than when fresh sprouted. So Neelle's duties were lessened, and time grew laggard, while succeeding years became more tiresome and uneventful than the nymph's joyous spirit loved.

Truly the forest dwellers did not lack amusement. Each full moon they danced in the Royal Circle of the Queen. There were also the Feast of Nuts, the Jubilee of Autumn Tintings, the solemn ceremony of Leaf Shedding and the revelry of Budding Day. But these periods of enjoyment were far apart and left many weary hours between.

That a wood nymph should grow discontented was not thought of by Neelle's sisters. It came upon her only after many years of brooding. But when once she had settled in her mind that life was irksome she had no patience with her condition and longed to do something of real interest and to pass her days in ways hitherto undreamed of by forest nymphs. The

Law of the Forest alone restrained her from going forth in search of adventure.

While this mood lay heavy upon pretty Neelle it chanced that the great Ak visited the Forest of Burzee and allowed the wood nymphs, as was their wont, to lie at his feet and listen to the words of wisdom that fell from his lips. Ak is the Master Woodsman of the World; he sees everything and knows more than the sons of men.

That night he held the Queen's hand, for he loved the nymphs as a father loves his children, and Neelle lay at his feet with many of her sisters and earnestly hearkened as he spoke.

"We live so happily, my fair ones, in our forest glades," said Ak, stroking his grizzled beard thoughtfully, "that we know nothing of the sorrow and misery that fall to the lot of those poor mortals who inhabit the open spaces of the earth. They are not of our race, it is true, yet compassion well befits beings so fairly favored as ourselves. Often as I pass by the dwelling of some suffering mortal I am tempted to step and banish the poor thing's misery. Yet suffering, in moderation, is the natural lot of mortals, and it is not our place to interfere with the laws of Nature."

"Nevertheless," said the fair Queen, nodding her golden head at the Master Woodsman, "it would not be a vain guess that Ak has often assisted these hapless mortals."

"Sometimes," Ak replied, "when they are very young—children," the mortals call them—I have stopped to rescue them from misery. The men and women I dare not interfere with; they must bear the burdens Nature has imposed upon them. But the helpless infants, the innocent children of men, have a right to be happy until they become full grown and able to bear the trials of humanity. So I feel I am justified in assisting them. Not long ago, a year, maybe, I found four poor children huddled in a wooden hut, slowly freezing to death. Their parents had gone to a neighboring village for food and had left a fire to warm their little ones while they were absent. But a storm arose and drifted the snow in their path, so they were long on the road. Meantime the fire went out, and the frost crept into the bones of the waiting children."

"Poor things!" murmured the Queen softly. "What did you do?" "I called Neeko, hiding him fetch wood from my forests and breathe upon it until the fire blazed again and warmed the little room where the children lay. Then they ceased shivering and fell asleep until their parents came."

"I am glad you did thus," said the good Queen, beaming upon the Master, and Neelle, who had eagerly listened to every word, echoed in a whisper, "I, too, am glad!" "And this very night," continued Ak, "as I came to the edge of Burzee I heard a feeble cry, which I judged came from a human infant. I looked about me and found, close to the forest, a helpless babe, lying quite naked upon the grasses and wailing piteously. Not far away, screened by the forest, crouched Shiegra, the lioness, intent upon devouring the infant for her evening meal."

"And what did you do, Ak?" asked the Queen breathlessly. "Not much, being in a hurry to greet my nymphs. But I commanded Shiegra to lie close to the babe and to give it her milk to quiet its hunger. And I told her to send word throughout the Forest to all beasts and reptiles that the child should not be harmed."

"I am glad you did thus," said the good Queen again, in a tone of relief, but this time Neelle did not echo her words, for the nymph, filled with a strange resolve, had suddenly stolen away from the group.

Swiftly her little form darted through the forest paths until she reached the edge of mighty Burzee, when she paused to gaze curiously about her. Never until now had she ventured so far, for the Law of the Forest had placed the nymphs in its inmost depths.

Neelle knew she was breaking the Law, but the thought did not give pause to her dainty feet. She had decided to see with her own eyes this infant Ak had told of, for she had never yet beheld a child of man. All the immortals are full grown; there are no children among them. Peering through the grass, Neelle saw the child lying on the grass, but now it was sweetly sleeping, having been comforted by the milk drawn from Shiegra. It was not old enough to know

what peril means; if it did not feel hunger it was content.

Softly the nymph stole to the side of the babe and knelt upon the sward, her long robe of rose leaf color spreading about her like a gossamer cloud. Her lovely countenance expressed curiosity and surprise, but, most of all, a tender, womanly pity. The babe was newborn, chubby and pink. It was entirely helpless. While the nymph gazed the infant opened its eyes, smiled upon her and stretched out two dimpled arms. In another instant Neelle had caught it to her breast and was hurrying with it through the forest paths.

Chapter Third The Adoption



THE Master Woodsman suddenly rose, with knitted brows. "There is a strange presence in the Forest," he declared. Then the Queen and her nymphs turned and saw standing before them Neelle, with the sleeping infant clasped in her arms and a defiant look in her eyes.

And thus for a moment they remained, the nymphs filled with surprise and consternation, but the brow of the Master Woodsman gradually clearing as he gazed intently upon the beautiful immortal who had wilfully broken the Law. Then the great Ak, to the wonder of all, laid his hand softly upon Neelle's flowing locks and kissed her on her fair forehead.

"For the first time within my knowledge," said he gently, "a nymph has defied me and my laws, yet in my heart can I find no word of chiding. What is your desire, Neelle?"

"Let me keep the child," she answered, beginning to tremble and falling on her knees in supplication.

"Here, in the Forest of Burzee, where the human race has never yet penetrated," questioned Ak.

"Here, in the Forest of Burzee," replied the nymph boldly. "It is my home, and I am weary for lack of occupation. Let me care for the babe! See how weak and helpless it is. Surely it cannot harm Burzee nor the Master Woodsman of the World!"

"But the Law, child, the Law!" cried Ak sternly.

"The Law is made by the Master Woodsman," returned Neelle. "If he bids me care for the babe he himself has saved from death, who in all the world dare oppose me?" Queen Zurline, who had listened intently to this conversation, clasped her pretty hands gleefully at the nymph's answer.

"You are fairly trapped, O Ak!" she exclaimed, laughing. "Now, I pray you, give heed to Neelle's petition."

The Woodsman, as was his habit when in thought, stroked his grizzled beard slowly. Then he said:

"She shall keep the babe, and I will give it my protection, but I warn you all that as this is the first time I have relaxed the Law so it shall be the last time. Nevermore, to the end of the World, shall a mortal be adopted by an immortal; otherwise would we abandon our happy existence for one of trouble and anxiety. Good night."

Then Ak was gone from their midst, and Neelle hurried away to her bower to rejoice over her new found treasure.

Chapter Fourth Claus



ANOTHER day found Neelle's bower the most popular place in the Forest. The nymphs clustered around her and the child, that lay asleep in her lap, with expressions of curiosity and delight. Nor were they wanting in praises for the great Ak's kindness in allowing

Neelle to keep the babe and care for it. Even the Queen came to peer into the innocent childish face and to hold a helpless, chubby fist in her own fair hand.

"What shall we call him, Neelle?" she asked, smiling. "He must have a name, you know."

"Let him be called Claus," answered Neelle, "for that means 'a little one'."

"Rather let him be called Neelaus," returned the Queen, "for that will mean 'Neelle's little one'."

[Some people have spelled this name Nicklaus, and others Nicolas, which is the reason that Santa Claus is still known in some lands as St. Nicholas. But, of course, Neelaus is his right name, and Claus the nickname given him by his adopted mother, the fairy nymph Neelle.]

The nymphs clasped their hands in delight, and Neelaus became the infant's name, although Neelle loved best to call him Claus, and in after days many of her sisters followed her example.

Neelle gathered the softest moss in all the forest for Claus to lie upon, and she made his bed in her own bower. Of food the infant had no lack. The nymphs searched the forest for bell udders, which grow upon the goat tree and when opened are found to be filled with sweet milk. And the soft eyed does willingly gave a share of their milk to support the little stranger, while Shiegra, the lioness, often crept stealthily into Neelle's bower and purled softly as she lay beside the babe and fed it.

So the little one flourished and grew big and sturdy day by day, while Neelle taught him to speak and to walk and to play.

His thoughts and words were sweet and gentle, for the nymphs knew no evil and their hearts were pure and loving. He became the pet of the Forest, for Ak's decree had forbidden beast or reptile to molest him, and he walked fearlessly wherever his will guided him.

Presently the news reached the other immortals that the nymphs of Burzee had adopted a human infant and that the act had been sanctioned by the great Ak. Therefore many of them came to visit the little stranger, looking upon him with much interest. First the Ryks, who are first cousins to the wood nymphs, although so differently formed. For the Ryks are required to watch over the flowers and plants, as the nymphs watch over the forest trees. They search the wide world for the food required by the roots of the flowering plants, while the brilliant colors possessed by the full blown flowers are due to the dyes placed in the soil by the Ryks, which

are drawn through the little veins in the roots and the body of the plants as they reach maturity. The Ryks are a busy people, for their flowers bloom and fade continually, but they are merry and light hearted and are very popular with the other immortals.

Next came the Knooks, whose duty it is to watch over the beasts of the world, both gentle and wild. The Knooks have a hard time of it, since many of the beasts are ungovernable and rebel against restraint. But they know how to manage them, after all, and you will find that certain laws of the Knooks are obeyed by even the most ferocious animals. Their anxieties make the Knooks look old and worn and crooked, and their natures are a bit rough from associating with wild creatures continually, yet they are most useful to humanity and to the world in general, as their laws are the only laws the forest beasts recognize except those of the Master Woodsman.

Then there were the Fairies, the guardians of mankind, who were much interested in the adoption of Claus because their own laws forbade them to become familiar with their human charges. There are instances on record where the Fairies have shown themselves to human beings, and have even conversed with them, but they are supposed to guard the lives of mankind unseen and unknown, and if they favor some people more than others it is because these have won such distinction fairly, as the Fairies are very just and impartial. But the idea of adopting a child of men had never occurred to them because it was in every way opposed to their laws, so their curiosity was intense to behold the little stranger adopted by Neelle and her sister nymphs.

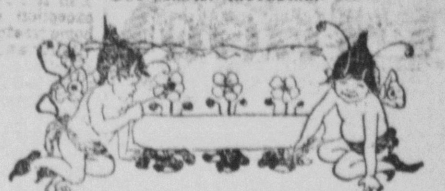
Claus looked upon the immortals who thronged around him with fearless eyes and smiling lips. He rode laughingly upon the shoulders of the merry Ryks; he mischievously pulled the gray beards of the low browed Knooks; he rested his curly head confidently upon the dainty bosom of the Fairy Queen herself. And the Ryks loved the sound of his laughter; the Knooks loved his courage; the Fairies loved his innocence.

The boy made friends of them all and learned to know their laws intimately. No forest flower was trampled beneath his feet lest the friendly Ryks should be grieved. He never interfered with the beasts of the forest lest his friends the Knooks should become angry. The Fairies he loved dearly, but, knowing nothing of mankind, he could not understand that he was the only one of his race admitted to friendly intercourse with them.

Indeed, Claus came to consider that

he alone of all the forest people had no like nor fellow. To him the forest was the world. He had no idea that millions of toiling, striving human creatures existed. And he was happy and content.

Chapter Fifth The Master Woodsman



YEARS pass swiftly in Burzee, for the nymphs have no need to regard time in any way. Even centuries make no change in the dainty creatures; ever and ever they remain the same, immortal and unchanging.

Claus, however, being mortal, grew to manhood day by day. Neelle was disturbed presently to find him too big to lie in her lap, and he had a desire for other food than milk. His stout legs carried him far into Burzee's heart, where he gathered supplies of nuts and berries as well as several sweet and wholesome roots, which suited his stomach better than the bell udders. He sought Neelle's bower less frequently, until finally it became his custom to return thither only to sleep.

The nymph, who had come to love him dearly, was puzzled to comprehend the changed nature of her charge and unconsciously altered her own mode of life to conform to his whims. She followed him readily through the forest paths, as did many of her sister nymphs, explaining as they walked all the mysteries of the gigantic wood and the habits and nature of the living things which dwelt beneath its shade.

The language of the beasts became clear to little Claus, but he never could understand their sulky and morose tempers. Only the squirrels, the mice and the rabbits seemed to possess cheerful and merry natures, yet would the boy laugh when the panther growled and stroke the bear's glossy coat while the creature snarled and bared its teeth menacingly. The growls and snarls were not for Claus, he well knew, so what did they matter?

He could sing the songs of the bees, recite the poetry of the wood flowers and relate the history of every blinking owl in Burzee. He helped the Ryks to feed their plants and the Knooks to keep order among the animals.

One day the Master Woodsman came back to the Forest of Burzee. He had visited, in turn, all the forests throughout the world, and they were many and broad.

Not until he entered the glade where the Queen and her nymphs were assembled to greet him did Ak remember the child he had permitted Neelle to adopt. Then he found, sitting familiarly in the circle of lovely immortals, a broad shouldered, stalwart youth who when erect stood fully as high as the shoulder of the Master himself.

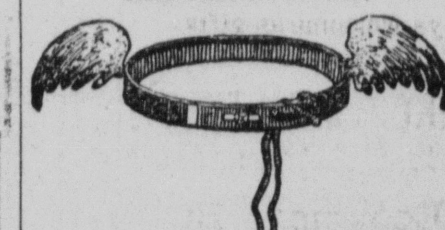
Ak paused, silent and frowning, to bend his piercing gaze upon Claus. The clear eyes met his own steadfastly, and the Woodsman gave a sigh of relief as he marked their placid depths and read the youth's brave and innocent heart. Nevertheless as Ak sat beside the fair Queen, and the golden chalice, filled with rare nectar, passed from lip to lip, the Master Woodsman was strangely silent and stroked his beard with a thoughtful motion.

With morning he called Claus aside in kindly fashion, saying:

"Bid goodbye for a time to Neelle and her sisters, for you shall accompany me on my journey through the world."

The venture pleased Claus, who knew well the honor of being companion of the Master Woodsman of the World. But Neelle wept for the first time in her life and clung to the boy's neck as if she could not bear to let him go. The nymph who had mothered this sturdy youth was still as dainty, as charming and beautiful as when she had dared to face Ak with the babe clasped to her breast, nor was her love less great. Ak beheld the two clinging together, seemingly as brother and sister to one another, and again he wore his thoughtful look.

Chapter Sixth Claus Discovers Humanity



TAKing Claus to a small clearing in the Forest, the Master said, "Place your hand upon my girdle and hold fast while we journey through the air, for now shall we encircle the world and look upon many of the haunts of those men from whom you are descended."

These words caused Claus to marvel, for until now he had thought himself the only one of his kind upon the earth. Yet in silence he grasped firmly the girdle of the great Ak, his astonishment forbidding speech.

Then the vast Forest of Burzee seemed to fall away from their feet, and the youth found himself passing swiftly through the air at a great height.

Ere long there were spires beneath them, while buildings of many shapes and colors met their downward view. It was a city of men, and Ak, pausing to descend, led Claus to its inclosure. Said the Master:

"So long as you hold fast to my girdle you will remain unseen by all mankind, though seeing clearly your-



The forest of Burzee and some of its inhabitants



The finding of Claus

Don't Miss Reading This Beautiful Fairy Tale.

self. To release your grasp will be to separate yourself forever from me and your home in Burzee.

One of the first laws of the Forest is obedience, and Claus had no thought of disobeying the Master's wish. He clung fast to the girdle and remained invisible.

Thereafter with each moment passed in the city the youth's wonder grew. He who had supposed himself created differently from all others now found the earth swarming with creatures of his own kind.

"Indeed," said Ak, "the immortals are few, but the mortals are many."

Claus looked earnestly upon his fellows. There were sad faces, gay and reckless faces, pleasant faces, anxious faces and kindly faces, all mingled in puzzling disorder. Some worked at tedious tasks, some strutted in impudent conceit, some were thoughtful and grave, while others seemed happy and content. Men of many natures were there, as everywhere, and Claus found much to please him and much to make him sad.

But especially he noted the children—first curiously, then eagerly, then lovingly. Ragged little ones rolled in the dust of the streets, playing with scraps and pebbles. Other children, gayly dressed, were primped upon cushions and fed with sugar plums. Yet the children of the rich were not happier than those playing with the dust and pebbles, it seemed to Claus.

"Childhood is the time of man's greatest content," said Ak, following the youth's thoughts. "This during these years of innocent pleasure that the little ones are most free from care."

"Tell me," said Claus, "why do not all these babies fare alike?"

"Because they are born in both cottage and palace," returned the Master. "The difference in the wealth of the parents determines the lot of the child. Some are carefully tended and clothed in silks and dainty linen; others are neglected and covered with rags."

"Yet all seem equally fair and sweet," said Claus thoughtfully.

"While they are babies, yes," agreed Ak. "Their joy is in being alive, and they do not stop to think. In after years the doom of mankind overtakes them, and they find they must struggle and worry, work and fret, to gain the wealth that is so dear to the hearts of men. Such things are unknown in the Forest where you were reared." Claus was silent for a moment. Then he asked:

"Why was I reared in the Forest, among those who are not of my race?"

Then Ak, in gentle voice, told him the story of his babyhood—how he had been abandoned at the Forest's edge and left a prey to wild beasts, and how the loving nymph Neelie had rescued him and brought him to manhood under the protection of the immortals.

"Yet I am not of them," said Claus musingly.

"You are not of them," returned the Woodsman. "The nymph who cared for you as a mother seems now like a sister to you. By and by, when you grow old and gray, she will seem like a daughter. Yet another brief span and you will be but a memory, while she remains Neelie."

"Then why, if man must perish, is he born?" demanded the boy.

"Everything perishes except the world itself and its keepers," answered Ak. "But while life lasts everything on earth has its use. The wise seek ways to be helpful to the world, for the helpful ones are sure to live again."

Much of this Claus failed to understand fully, but a longing seized him to become helpful to his fellows, and he remained grave and thoughtful while they resumed their journey.

They visited many dwellings of men in many parts of the world, watching farmers toil in the fields, warriors dash into cruel fray and merchants exchange their goods for bits of white and yellow metal. And everywhere the eyes of Claus sought out the children in love and pity, for the thought of his own helpless babyhood was strong within him, and he yearned to give help to the innocent little ones of his race even as he had been succored by the kindly nymph.

Day by day the Master Woodsman and his pupil traversed the earth, Ak speaking but seldom to the youth, who clung steadfastly to his girdle, but guiding him into all places where he might become familiar with the lives of human beings.

And at last they returned to the grand old Forest of Burzee, where the Master set Claus down within the circle of nymphs, among whom the pretty Neelie anxiously awaited him.

The brow of the great Ak was now calm and peaceful, but the brow of Claus had become lined with deep thought. Neelie sighed at the change in her foster son, who until now had been ever joyous and smiling, and the thought came to her that never again would the life of the boy be the same as before this eventful journey.

Chapter Seventh

Claus Leaves the Forest



WHEN good Queen Zurline had touched the golden chalice with her fair lips, and it had passed around the circle in honor of the travelers' return, the Master Woodsman of the World, who had not yet spoken, turned his gaze frankly upon Claus and said:

"Well?"



Claus gathering nuts and berries in the Burzee forest.

The boy understood and rose slowly to his feet beside Neelie. Once only his eyes passed around the familiar circle of nymphs, every one of whom he remembered as a loving comrade, but tears came unbidden to dim his sight, so he gazed thereafter steadfastly at the Master.

"I have been ignorant," said he simply, "until the great Ak in his kindness taught me who and what I am. You, who live so sweetly in your forest bowers, ever fair and youthful and innocent, are no fit comrades for a son of humanity. For I have looked upon naught, finding him doomed to live for a brief space upon earth, to toil for the things he needs, to fade into old age and then to pass away as the leaves in autumn. Yet every man has his mission, which is to leave the world better in some way than he found it. I am of the race of men, and man's lot is my lot. For your tender care of the poor, forsaken babe you adopted, as well as for your loving comradeship during my boyhood, my heart will ever overflow with gratitude. My foster mother, here he stooped and kissed Neelie's white forehead. "I shall love and cherish while life lasts. But I must leave you, to take my part in the endless struggle to which humanity is doomed and to live my life in my own way."

"What will you do?" asked the Queen gravely.

"I must devote myself to the care of the children of mankind and try to make them happy," he answered. "Since your own tender care of a babe brought to me happiness and strength, it is just and right that I devote my life to the pleasure of other babes. Thus will the memory of the loving nymph Neelie be planted within the hearts of thousands of my race for many years to come and her kindly act be recounted in song and in story while the world shall last. Have I spoken well, O Master?"

"You have spoken well," returned Ak, and, rising to his feet, he continued: "Yet one thing must not be forgotten. Having been adopted as the child of the Forest and the playfellow of the nymphs, you have gained a distinction which forever separates you from your kind. Therefore when you

go forth into the world of men you shall retain the protection of the Forest, and the powers you now enjoy will remain with you to assist you in your labors. In any need you may call upon the Nymphs, the Ryls, the Knooks and the Fairies, and they will serve you gladly. I, the Master Woodsman of the World, have said it, and my Word is the Law."

Claus looked upon Ak with grateful eyes.

"This will make me mighty among men," he replied. "Protected by these kind friends I may be able to make thousands of little children happy. I will try very hard to do my duty, and I know the Forest people will give me their sympathy and help."

"We will!" said the Fairy Queen earnestly.

"We will!" cried the merry Ryls, laughing.

"We will!" shouted the crooked Knooks, scowling.

"We will!" exclaimed the sweet Nymphs proudly. But Neelie said nothing. She only folded Claus in her arms and kissed him tenderly.

"The world is big," continued the boy, turning again to his loyal friends, "but men are everywhere. I shall begin my work near my friends, so that if I meet with misfortune I can come to the Forest for counsel or help."

With that he gave them all a loving look and turned away. There was no need to say goodbye, but for him the sweet, wild life of the Forest was over. He went forth bravely to meet his doom—the doom of the race of man—the necessity to worry and work.

But Ak, who knew the boy's heart, was merciful and guided his steps.

Coming through Burzee to its eastern edge Claus reached the Laughing Valley of Hohaho. On each side were rolling green hills, and a brook wandered midway between them to wind afar off beyond the valley. At his back was the grim Forest; at the far end of the valley a broad plain. The eyes of the young man, which had until now reflected his grave thoughts, became brighter as he stood silent, looking out upon the Laughing Valley. Then on a sudden his eyes twinkled, as stars



Claus and the Master Woodsman

go on a still night, and grow merry and wide.

For at his feet the cowslips and daisies smiled on him in friendly regard; the breeze whistled playfully as it passed by and fluttered the locks on his forehead; the brook laughed joyously as it leaped over the pebbles and swept around the green curves of its banks; the bees sang sweet songs as they flew from dandelion to dandelion; the beetles chirruped happily in the long grass, and the sunbeams glistened pleasantly over all the scene.

"Here," cried Claus, stretching out his arms as if to embrace the Valley, "will I make my home!"

That was many, many years ago. It has been his home ever since. It is his home now.

Chapter Eighth

The Laughing Valley



WHEN Claus came the Valley was empty save for the grass, the brook, the wild flowers, the bees and the butterflies. If he would make his home here and live after the fashion of men he must have a house. This puzzled him at first, but while he stood smiling in the sunshine he suddenly found beside him old Nelko, the servant of the Master Woodsman. Nelko bore an ax, strong and broad, with blade that gleamed like burnished silver. This he placed in the young man's hand, then disappeared without a word.

Claus understood, and, turning to the Forest's edge, he selected a number of fallen tree trunks, which he began to clear of their dead branches. He would not cut into a living tree. His life among the nymphs who guarded the Forest had taught him that a live tree is sacred, being a created thing endowed with feeling. But with the dead and fallen trees it was different. They had fulfilled their destiny as active members of the Forest community, and now it was fitting that their remains should minister to the needs of man.

He axed a bit deep into the logs at every stroke. It seemed to have a force of its own, and Claus had but to swing and guide it.

When shadows began creeping over the green hills to lie in the Valley overnight, the young man had chopped many logs into equal lengths and proper shapes for building a house such as he had seen the poorer classes of men inhabit. Then, resolving to await another day before he tried to fit the logs together, Claus ate some of the sweet roots he well knew how to find, drank deeply from the laughing brook and lay down to sleep on the grass, first seeking a spot where no flowers grew lest the weight of his body should crush them.

And while he slumbered and breathed in the perfume of the wondrous Valley the Spirit of Happiness crept into his heart and drove out all terror and care and misgivings. Nevermore would the face of Claus be clouded with anxiety; nevermore would the trials of life weigh him down as with a burden. The Laughing Valley had claimed him for its own.

Would that we all might live in that delightful place! But then, maybe, it would become overcrowded. For ages it had awaited a tenant. Was it chance that led young Claus to make his home in this happy vale? Or may we guess that his thoughtful friends, the immortals, had directed his steps when he wandered away from Burzee to seek a home in the great world?

Certain it is that while the moon peered over the hilltop and flooded with its soft beams the body of the sleeping stranger the Laughing Valley was filled with the queer, crooked shapes of the friendly Knooks. These people spoke no words, but worked with skill and swiftness. The logs Claus had trimmed with his bright ax were carried to a spot beside the brook and fitted one upon another and during the night a strong and roomy dwelling was built.

The birds came sweeping into the Valley at daybreak, and their songs, so seldom heard in the deep wood, aroused the stranger. He rubbed the web of sleep from his eyelids and looked around. The house met his gaze.

"I must thank the Knooks for this," said he gratefully. Then he walked to his dwelling and entered at the doorway. A large room faced him, having a fireplace at the end and a table and bench in the middle. Beside the fireplace was a cupboard. Another doorway was beyond. Claus entered here also and saw a smaller room with a bed against the wall and a stool set near a small stand. On the bed were many layers of dried moss brought from the Forest.

"Indeed, it is a palace!" exclaimed the smiling Claus. "I must thank the good Knooks again for their knowledge of man's needs as well as for their labors in my behalf."

He left his new home with a glad feeling that he was not quite alone in the world, although he had chosen to abandon his Forest life. Friendships are not easily broken and the immortals are everywhere.

Upon reaching the brook he drank of the pure water and then sat down on the bank to laugh at the mischievous gambols of the ripples as they pushed one another against rocks or crowded desperately to see which should first reach the turn beyond. And as they raced away he listened to the song they sang:

"Rushing, pushing, on we go!
Not a wave may gently flow—
All are too excited.
Every drop, delighted,
Turns to spray in merry play
As we tumble on our way!"

Next Claus searched for roots to eat, while the daffodils turned their little eyes up to him laughingly and lisped their dainty song:

"Blooming fairly, growing rarely,
Never flowers were so gay!
Perfume breathing, joy bequeathing,
As our colors we display."

It made Claus laugh to hear the little things voice their happiness as they nodded gracefully on their stems. But another strain caught his ear as the sunbeams glistened across his face and he whispered:

"Here is gladness, that our rays
Warm the Valley through the days;
Here is happiness, to give
Comfort unto all who live!"

"Yes," cried Claus in answer, "there are happiness and joy in all things here. The Laughing Valley is a valley of peace and good will."

He passed the day talking with the ants and beetles and exchanging jokes with the light-hearted butterflies. And at night he lay on his bed of soft moss and slept soundly.

Then came the Fairies, merry, but noiseless, bringing skillets and pots and dishes and pans and all the tools necessary to prepare food and to comfort a mortal. With these they filled cupboard and fireplace, finally placing a stout suit of wool clothing on the stool by the bedside.

When Claus awoke he rubbed his eyes again and laughed and spoke aloud his thanks to the Fairies and the Master Woodsman who had sent them. With eager joy he examined all his new possessions, wondering what some might be used for, but in the days when he had clung to the girdle of the great Ak and visited the cities of men his eyes had been quick to note all the manners and customs of the race to which he belonged; so he guessed from the gifts brought by the Fairies that the Master expected him hereafter to live in the fashion of his fellow creatures.

"Which means that I must plow the earth and plant corn," he reflected, "so that when winter comes I shall have garnered food in plenty."

But as he stood in the grassy Valley he saw that to turn up the earth in furrows would be to destroy hundreds of pretty, helpless flowers, as well as thousands of the tender blades of grass. And this he could not bear to do.

Therefore he stretched out his arms and uttered a peculiar whistle he had learned in the Forest, afterward crying:

"Ryls of the Field Flowers—come to me!"

Instantly a dozen of the queer little Ryls were squatting upon the ground before him, and they nodded to him in cheerful greeting.

Claus gazed upon them earnestly. "Your brothers of the Forest," he said, "I have known and loved many years. I shall love you, also, when we have become friends. To me the laws of the Ryls, whether those of the Forest or of the field, are sacred. I have never willfully destroyed one of the flowers you tend so carefully, but I must plant grain to use for food during the cold winter, and how am I to do this without killing the little creatures that sing to me so prettily of their fragrant blossoms?"

The Yellow Ryl, he who tends the buttercups, made answer:

"Fret not, friend Claus. The great Ak has spoken to us of you. There is better work for you in life than to labor for food, and though, not being of the Forest, Ak has no command over us, nevertheless we are glad to favor one he loves. Live, therefore, to do the good work you are resolved to undertake. We, the Field Ryls, will attend to your food supplies."

After this speech the Ryls were no longer to be seen, and Claus drove from his mind the thought of tilling the earth.

When next he wandered back to his dwelling a bowl of fresh milk stood upon the table, bread was in the cupboard and sweet honey filled a dish beside it. A pretty basket of rosy apples and new plucked grapes was also waiting him. He called out, "Thanks, my friends!" to the invisible Ryls and straightaway began to eat of the food.

Thereafter, when hungry, he had but to look into the cupboard to find goodly supplies brought by the kindly Ryls. And the Knooks cut and stacked much wood for his fireplace. And the Fairies brought him warm blankets and clothing.

So began his life in the Laughing Valley, with the favor and friendship of the immortals to minister to his every want.

Chapter Ninth

How Claus Made the first Coy



TRULY our Claus had wisdom, for his good fortune but strengthened his resolve to befriend the little ones of his own race. He knew his plan was approved

by the immortals, else they would not have favored him so greatly. So he began at once to make acquaintance with mankind. He walked through the Valley to the plain beyond, and crossed the plain in many directions to reach the abodes of men.

These stood singly or in groups of dwellings called villages, and in nearly all the houses, whether big or little, Claus found children.

The youngsters soon came to know his merry, laughing face and the kind glance of his bright eyes, and the parents, while they regarded the young man with some scorn for loving children more than their elders, were content that the girls and boys had found a playfellow who seemed willing to amuse them.

So the children romped and played games with Claus, and the boys rode upon his shoulders, and the girls nestled in his strong arms, and the babies clung fondly to his knees. Whenever the young man chanced to be the sound of childish laughter followed him, and to understand this better you must know that children were much neglected in those days and received little attention from their parents, so that it became to them a marvel that so goodly a man as Claus devoted his time to making them happy. And those who knew him were, you may be sure, very happy indeed. The sad faces of the poor and abused grew bright for once; the cripple smiled despite his misfortune; the ailing ones hushed their moans and the grieving ones their cries when their merry friend came nigh to comfort them.

Only at the beautiful palace of the Lord of Lerd and at the frowning castle of the Baron Braun was Claus refused admittance. There were children at both places, but the servants at the palace shut the door in the young stranger's face, and the fierce Baron threatened to hang him from an iron hook on the castle walls. Whereupon Claus sighed and went back to the poorer dwellings where he was welcome.

After a time the winter drew near. One day snowflakes filled all the air in the Laughing Valley and clothed in pure white raiment the roof of Claus' dwelling.

At night Jack Frost rapped at the door.

"Come in!" cried Claus.

"Come out," answered Jack, "for you have a fire inside."

So Claus came out. He had known Jack Frost in the Forest and liked the rogue, even while he mistrusted him. There will be rare sport for me tonight, Claus," shouted the sprite. "Isn't this glorious weather? I shall nip scores of noses and ears and toes before daybreak."

"If you love me, Jack, spare the children," begged Claus.

"And why?" asked the other.

"They are tender and helpless," answered Claus.

"But I love to nip the tender ones!" declared Jack. "The older ones are tough and tire my fingers."

"The young ones are weak and cannot fight you," said Claus.

"True," agreed Jack thoughtfully. "Well, I will not pinch a child this night—if I can resist the temptation," he promised. "Good night, Claus!"

"Good night," Claus replied.

The young man went in and closed the door, and Jack Frost ran on to the nearest village.

Claus threw a log on the fire, which burned brightly. Beside the hearth sat Blinky, a big cat given him by Peter the Knook. Her fur was soft and glossy, and she purred never ending songs of contentment.

"I shall not see the children again soon," said Claus to the cat, who kindly paused in her song to listen. "The winter is upon us, the snow will be deep for many days, and I shall be unable to play with my little friends."

The cat raised a paw and stroked her nose thoughtfully, but made no reply. So long as the fire burned and Claus sat in his easy chair by the hearth she did not mind the weather.

So passed many days and many long evenings. The cupboard was always full, but Claus became weary with having nothing to do more than to feed the fire from the big wood pile the Knooks had brought him.

One evening he picked up a stick of wood and began to cut it with his

sharp knife. He had no thought at first except to occupy his time, and he whistled and sang to the cat as he carved away portions of the stick. Puss sat up on her haunches and watched him, listening at the same time to her master's merry whistle, which she loved to hear even more than her own purring songs.

Claus glanced at puss and then at the stick he was whittling, until presently the wood began to have a shape, and the shape was like the head of a cat, with two ears sticking upward.

Claus stopped whistling to laugh, and then both he and the cat looked at the wooden image in some surprise. Then he carved out the eyes and the nose and rounded the lower part of the head so that it rested upon a neck.

Puss hardly knew what to make of it now, and sat up stiffly, as if watching with some suspicion what would come next.

Claus knew. The head gave him an idea. He plied his knife carefully and with skill, forming slowly the body of the cat, which he made to sit upon its haunches as the real cat did, with her tail wound around her two front legs.

The work cost him much time, but the evening was long and he had nothing better to do. Finally he gave a loud and delighted laugh at the result of his labors and placed the wooden cat, now completed, upon the hearth opposite the real one.

Then Blinky glared at her image, raised her hair in anger and uttered a defiant mew. The wooden cat paid no attention, and Claus, much amused, laughed again.

Then Blinky advanced toward the wooden image to eye it closely and smell of it intelligently. Eyes and nose told her the creature was wool, in spite of its natural appearance; so puss resumed her seat and her purring, but as she neatly washed her face with her padded paw she cast more than one admiring glance at her clever master. Perhaps she felt the same satisfaction we feel when we look upon good photographs of ourselves.

The cat's master was himself pleased with his handiwork, without knowing exactly why. Indeed, he had cause to congratulate himself that night, and all the children throughout the world should have joined him in rejoicing, for Claus had made his first toy.

Chapter Tenth

How the Ryls Colored the Coys



HUSH lay on the Laughing Valley now. Snow covered it like a white spread, and pillows of downy flakes drifted before the dwelling where Claus sat feeding the blaze of the fire. The brook gurgled on beneath a heavy sheet of ice, and all living plants and insects nestled close to Mother Earth to keep warm. The face of the moon was hid by dark clouds, and the wind, delighting in the wintry sport, pushed and whirled the snowflakes in so many directions that they could get no chance to fall to the ground.

Claus heard the wind whistling and shrieking in its play and thanked the good Knooks again for his comfortable shelter. Blinky washed her face lazily and stared at the coals with a look of perfect content. The toy cat sat opposite the real one and gazed straight ahead, as toy cats should.

Suddenly Claus heard a noise that sounded different from the voice of the wind. It was more like a wall of suffering and despair.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]



Claus and the Ryls

This Interesting Story Will be Continued Next Saturday.

WIND AND WATERPROOF OVERCOATS

Our gray freize "Storm King" overcoats are warranted wind and water proofand at the same time make a dressy garment and have no equal at the price.

46 inch length - 5.00.
52 inch length - 6.00.

SOLD ONLY AT

The Hub.

MANSLAUGHTER.

Jacob Conrad Gets Sentence of Two to Twenty-One Years.

The jury found Jacob Conrad guilty of manslaughter, which means an indeterminate sentence to the penitentiary for a term of two to twenty-one years. The jury reached an agreement at 7:30 Saturday morning, having been out fifteen hours.

The verdict was no surprise to most of those who followed the case, though there were some who believed the sentence would be heavier. That he was guilty in some degree and that the jury would so find was the general belief.

Conrad shot and killed Lawton Jackson in a duel with pistols at Vailonia, October 27. Jackson kept a saloon at Vailonia and Conrad had kept bar for him. They fell out and became enemies which finally lead up to the murder.

PERSONAL.

O. M. Goss, of Medora, was here last night.

Rev. S. H. Huffman was a passenger north this morning.

Ed McDonald made a business trip to Louisville today.

Harry Flomerfelt returned this afternoon from St. Louis.

D. M. Lett was here from below Crothersville today.

August Cordes made a business trip to Brownstown today.

Peter Fillion returned to Bedford today from Scottsburg.

W. G. Reynolds made a business trip to Jonesville this morning.

M. W. Pearsons went to Walesboro on the early forenoon train.

Mrs. S. A. Rogers went to Leesburg Ohio to visit her mother.

W. J. Richards, of Clearspring, was in town on business today.

W. J. Durham will go to Indianapolis Sunday to visit his new grandson.

Frank Hackendorf and Oils Hayes were here from Brownstown last evening.

Will Clark, who has been sick for several days, is not improving very rapidly.

Prof. E. S. Gardiner, of Franklin, was here today on his way to Washington.

George D. Rider, of Crothersville was here today on his way home from Brownstown.

Joseph Behall, who has been visiting his father, W. D. Bohall, went to Franklin this morning.

Ed. Short and Will Kauffman returned this morning from Brownstown where they have been at work.

Rev. T. C. Probert, of Galveston, is here and will preach at the First Baptist church tomorrow.

W. H. Isgrigg, of Greensburg, who did the brick work on the Masonic Temple, was here this morning.

Miss Mary Meek, who was here visiting Mrs. Mary England, returned to Columbus this morning.

Mrs. J. W. Cunningham returned today to Brownstown from Martinsville where she spent nearly two weeks.

Clarence Lewellen and Bert Nelson who have been working at Brownstown returned to their homes at Crothersville today.

Miss Rose Cadem has returned to her home at Otisco after visiting her sister, Mrs. Harry Flomerfelt, who accompanied her home for a few days visit.

Mrs. Lizzie Cooley who has been here on account of the death of her grandson, Francis Hall, went to her home at Brownstown this morning but will return this evening.

Mrs. Charles Williams, of Seymour, is the guest of Mrs. O. B. Sappington.

... Mrs. Mary E. Shauer, of Greensburg, spent Thursday afternoon in the city and went to Seymour in the evening to visit friends and relatives. —Columbus Republican.

ADJOURNED SESSION.

City Council Completes Business of Regular Session.

The council met in adjourned session last night with Mayor Graessle in the chair and all councilmen present.

The first act of the council after roll-call was the adoption by unanimous vote of the following resolution introduced by Cordes:

Alfred W. Mills was born December 23, 1850 in Jefferson county, Indiana, and died on the seventh day of December 1904, in the city of Seymour, Indiana. His life was a busy one. By nature he was active, energetic, liberal minded and good hearted. In all his dealings with his fellowman he was absolutely honest and truthful. He realized that it was more blessed to give than to receive and acting upon this principle he never lost an opportunity to give aid to those in distress. Many are the houses of the poor that have been warmed and the mouths of the hungry that have been fed by his generous hand. To every public enterprise he was a liberal subscriber and patron, giving money and time and thought. He served the city of Seymour as councilman with fidelity and fairness. As Mayor his every act was characterized by impartiality, ability and integrity. Therefore be it

RESOLVED by the common council of the city of Seymour that we regret his untimely death. That we realize that the city of Seymour has lost an enterprising citizen and a valuable business man. That we extend our heart felt sympathy to his family in this time of their bereavement.

Be it resolved that a copy of these resolutions be spread of record on the minutes of this council and that an engrossed copy be sent to his family. The resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the council.

Councilman Mills introduced the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Seymour that the amount of money remaining in the hands of the building committee of the Public Library after all bills are paid, to wit, \$275.90, which sum has been turned over to the city of Seymour by said building committee, be and the same is hereby donated to the Public Library Board of said city. And be it further resolved by said council that the City Clerk be and he is hereby directed and instructed by this council to draw a city warrant for said sum in favor of said Public Library Board. The resolution was adopted.

The report of the fire committee relative to the building, fire hose, horses, etc was referred to a committee of the whole council to meet in city office Wednesday, Dec. 14 at 8 p. m. The committee reported estimates of the cost of a paid fire department and electric fire alarm system, including horse wagon, horses, harness, new hose, electrical apparatus and building. The total estimate was \$6,650.

The report of the library building committee was referred to the finance committee.

The clerk was instructed to notify the Southern Indiana to repair Ewing street crossing. Also to clean ditches on Vine and Bill streets.

The street commissioner was instructed to repair water hydrants.

The improvement committee was directed to investigate the matter of coal tar running into the sewer from gas plant.

On motion of Brethauer the mayor was directed to appoint a committee of five to investigate the conditions and workings of the Greeman Furniture factory. The mayor appointed Brethauer, Mills, Robertson, Morton and Love.

The health officer, Dr. Kamman, reported that during November there were 21 births in Seymour, 13 males and 8 females. There were nine cases of scarlet fever. During the month there were eight deaths in the city.

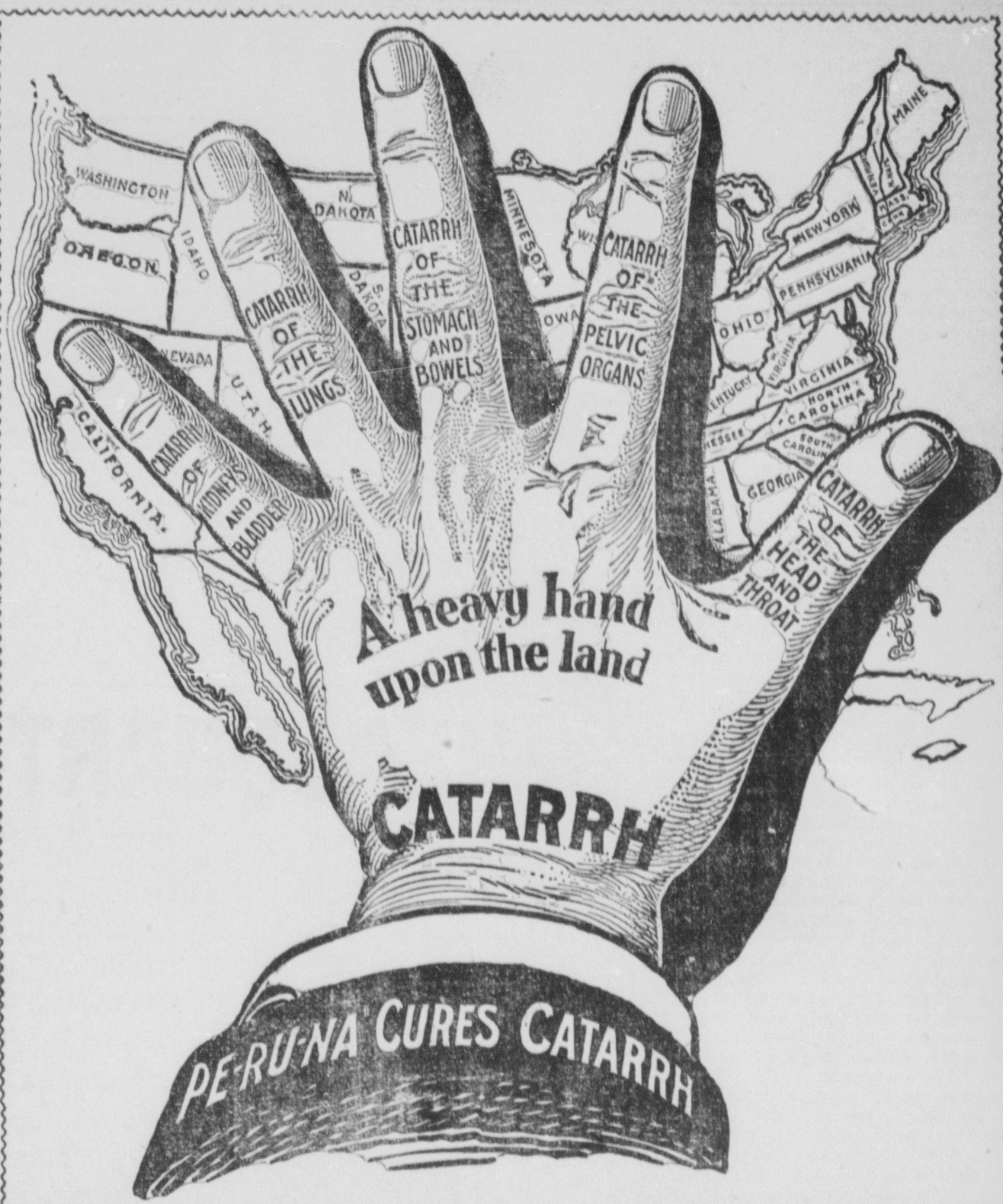
Getting Together.

A meeting of the county commissioners of the State has been called to meet in the Criminal Court room, Indianapolis, next Monday. John McGregor, one of the Marion County commissioners, has been the principal promoter of the affair, and he hopes that the commissioners of Indiana will hereafter meet annually. Letters have been sent to all the commissioners in the State and McGregor says that many commissioners had written that they would be on hand. The purpose of getting together will be the discussion of duties and methods of commissioners. They will have some new law to propose to the legislature.

Solve This One.

Compared with the following problem "Ann's age" is an easy one: A young farmer asked an elderly farmer for his daughter in marriage. The answer was: Go into the orchard and bring in a parcel of apples. Give me one half of the whole number and to the mother one half of the balance and half an apple over, and to the daughter one half of the remainder and half an apple over, and have one apple left for yourself with out cutting an apple. Then if she is willing you can have her." He solved the problem. How many did he bring?

Albums, toilet cases, gift boxes at the Racket. 10-12-14-15-17 and w.



Peruna is recommended by fifty members of Congress, by Governors, Consuls, Generals, Majors, Captains, Admirals, Eminent Physicians, Clergymen, many Hospitals and public institutions, and thousands upon thousands of those in the humbler walks of life.

Notice of Election.

The regular annual meeting of the shareholders of the First National Bank of Seymour, Indiana, for the election of the officers and the transaction of such other business as may be brought before them, will be held at the banking house, January 10, 1905. J. H. ANDREWS, Jr., Cashier.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*
The Kind You Have Always Bought

Happy Thought!

The Holiday perfume package is a happy thought. It settles at once the perplexing question: "What shall I get for Christmas gifts?" Each year perfume gifts increase in popularity. We have a window full of happy thoughts for the coming Holiday season. They are all new and artistic. See them today, and make selections early. We have a new line of bulk orders, the latest creation of the perfumer's art. It will pay you to examine them this week.

Cox's Pharmacy.
PHONE 100.



That's the Ticket For Christmas

Nothing a man appreciates more and nothing could make a more suitable gift. Smoking Jackets and House Coats are a man's idea of comfort. Our assortment this season is unusually large and attractive. Elegant in design and trimmings.

PRICES: \$4.00 TO \$6.00

THOMAS

CLOTHING COMPANY.

GREAT

REDUCTION IN PRICES!

25 to 50 per cent. Reduction on

Children's and Misses' Cloaks.

In order to make room for Toys and Christmas Goods. Also

Special Low Prices

On Ladies' Coats and Jackets, Shirt Waists, Suits and Skirts.

C. R. HOFFMANN,

22 SOUTH CHESTNUT STREET.

\$250, \$275, \$300--Cash, or Time

The Harvard Piano

Made by The John Church Company
C. W. Burkart, Agt., Seymour

Dr. F. Lett

VETERINARY SURGEON

Office Third street between Chestnut and Walnut.
Calls answered day or night.
Office Phone No. 80.

Residence Phone No. 19.

Don't Wait Until Christmas to Get Ready For It.

Personal appearance adds to comfort an individual happiness. So look to yours and have your clothes meet the occasion. If they are new have them made to look so. Remember this is the BEST and cheapest place. Trousers pressed... 15c
Suits pressed... 50c
Trousers cleaned and pressed... 35c
Suits cleaned and pressed... 75c
Overcoats cleaned and pressed... 75c
Overcoats velvet collared... 75c to 1.50
Ladies' skirts pressed... 75c
Ladies' skirts cleaned and pressed 1.00 to 2.00
Other work in proportion. All kinds of remodeling, mending and repairing done neatly and quickly. d2eod

H. E. WEITHOFF.

November Coughs

The changeable weather of November is very hard on throat and lungs, causing much coughing and soreness. We invite your Doctor's prescriptions for medicine covering such ailments. Also if you want a good household cough remedy, one that has proven thoroughly reliable during a use of several years, we will gladly supply you Rexall Celery Juice at 25c a bottle.

W. F. PETER DRUG CO.,
Phone 400.

We Have the Remedies

For all Fall and Winter ills. Bring us your

Prescriptions

They will be carefully prepared in fresh drugs.

Geo. F. Meyer, Druggist
Phone 247. 116 S. Chestnut St.

WEATHER INDICATIONS.

CHICAGO, Ill., December 10, 1904--Partly cloudy tonight and Sunday.

Creed Cooley was here from Tampico today.

Picture framing done at Carter's.

Notices--Life insurance companies will reduce the rate 33 per cent. to all who agree to use Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. A wise measure. 35c Tea or Tablets. W. F. Peter Drug Co.

Sleds and express wagons at the Racket. 10-12-14-15-17 and w.

A beautiful Morocco bound reference Bible at \$1.00.

MILLERS BOOK STORE
d8-10-12-14-16&w

Stationery all prices at T. R. Carter

WANTED.--Manager for branch office, we contemplate opening here in Seymour. Address with reference, The Morris Wholesale House, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Have your suit repaired, cleaned and pressed by Petterman, Tailor, Second and Indianapolis avenue. d141

Robert Crawford, an extensive farmer and stock raiser, residing north of Crothersville was in Seymour advertising his sale of Poland China hogs which will be Tuesday, December 20. Mr. Crawford is also an auctioneer and is frequently called upon to cry public sales

Parker lucky curve fountain pens at T. R. Carters.

The nicest line of Popular Copy-rights on earth at 50c. While they last, see window display for titles.

MILLERS BOOK STORE
d8-10-12-14-16&w

Bibles and pictures at T. R. Carter's.

Comforts the heart, strengthens the mind. It's good, ill or well. Make ones face bright as a summer morning. That's what Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea does. 35c. Tea or Tablets. W. F. Peter Drug Co.

Fountain pens, best made on earth at \$1.00 to \$5.00. Money back if not as represented.

MILLERS BOOK STORE.
d8-10-12-14-16&w

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature *Chas. H. Fletcher*

"A Thoroughbred Tramp."

Which appears at the opera house Dec. 14 is claimed to be one of the best comedies on the road. The story of play deals principally with the troubles and scrapes of the tramp, T. Rush Thompson.

The play is a new one and is said to be thoroughly entertaining from start to finish.

Free Show.

Tonight in front of the Vande Walle music store a free moving picture show will be given by Mr. C. Thomas, of Chicago. The great train robbery, the Japanese-Russian war will be among the interesting features. A variety of moving pictures will be giving during the evening. Come early and see the show which is free to all.

Prompt Settlement.

I wish to express my appreciation to the New York Underwriters Insurance Co., represented by J. W. Massman, for prompt settlement of loss on my household goods.

EDGAR L. DOUGHTERY.

Masonic Notice.

Seymour Chapter No. 85 will meet in regular Communication Monday, Dec. 12th at 7:30 P. M. for the election of officers and other important business. All members are urgently requested to be present.

W. J. Durham H. P.

Three Fingers Off.

Fred Ault, of Waymansville, caught his right hand in a corn shredder Thursday and three fingers were so badly mangled that they had to be amputated. The amputation was done by Dr. B. F. Armbruster, of Columbus.

Royal Arcanum.

There will be a meeting Monday night, Dec. 12. Election of officers. All members requested to be present. M. W. FARRELL, Regent.

The "little losses" of today--the loss of a good clerk, of a good tenant, of a good cook, even of a good customer--may be repaired promptly by a few lines of type.

The most complete line of dolls and doll buggies at the Racket. 10-12-14-15-17 and w.

Stag, Ebony, and celluloid toilet sets, from \$1.00 to \$10.00. No old stock.

MILLERS BOOK STORE.
d8-10-12-14-16&w

The funeral of Mrs. Harris, whose death occurred Thursday, will be from the residence east of Reddington tomorrow forenoon at 11 o'clock. Rev. Geo. Sweany will conduct the services.

Wall paper and window shades at T. R. Carter's.

Handkerchiefs at all prices at the Racket. 10-12-14-15-17 and w.

The Greensburg Graphic says of Senef's Ladies Military Band, which comes to the Opera House, Thursday, Dec. 15: They are all high class artists. The trombone solo by Miss Grace Hammond was received with loud applause.

Head About to Burst From Severe Bilious Attack.

"I had a severe bilious attack and felt like my head was about to burst when I got hold of a free sample of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. I took a dose of them after supper and the next day felt like a new man and have been feeling happy ever since," says Mr. J. W. Smith, of Juila, Texas. For biliousness, stomach troubles and constipation there tablets have no equal. Price 25 cents. For sale by C. W. Milhous.

Thirty six kinds of high grade Christmas candles at 10 cents per pound at the Racket Store. 10-12-14-15-17-and w.

The farmer loves the rolling plain, The sailor loves the sea, The girls they love their lovers, And their Rocky Mountain Tea. W. F. Peter Drug Co.

Toilet sets and albums at Carter's.

POLITICIANS PLEASED

That Indianapolis Will No Longer Claim Both Senators.

Indianapolis, Dec. 10.—The fact that Indianapolis will not have both of the United States senators after Mr. Hemenway succeeds Senator Fairbanks is secretly causing considerable pleasure among the party leaders here; not that they were not gratified that Indianapolis should be the home of both Senator Fairbanks and Senator Beveridge, as both are very popular here, but inasmuch as Senator Fairbanks has been elected vice president they feel that it will help them politically to have his successor come from some other locality. Since Senator Beveridge was elected six years ago Indianapolis candidates for state offices have had rough sledding because two senators lived here. It was continually argued that Indianapolis had enough. The Republican leaders here feel now that this claim won't stand any longer. Among many Republican leaders there is a feeling of satisfaction that the southern part of the state in Mr. Hemenway's election will be rewarded for the fight it has made in the face of great odds.

The report that the Republican caucus may elect Congressman James A. Hemenway to succeed Vice President-elect Fairbanks the day it re-elects Senator Albert J. Beveridge, is well received by Republican leaders generally. Inasmuch as Mr. Hemenway is to have no opposition, they desire that his election be accomplished as quickly as possible. It is said that a precedent has been found at Washington that will enable the legislature to elect Mr. Hemenway along with Senator Beveridge, even though Senator Fairbanks does not resign till the day before his inauguration. Republican leaders feel that it would save time and simplify matters greatly if the two senatorial candidates can be elected the same day. Although the senatorial race ended but a week ago today, the followers of Mr. Hemenway's rivals seem to regard him as kindly as though he had not defeated their favorites. The indications are that his election will be accomplished with the party unanimity and enthusiasm that have characterized the support of Senators Fairbanks and Beveridge.

It is understood that Sidney Cantwell of Hartford City, who will be elected speaker of the house, has not attempted to make up any of the committees and that he will not do so until after the holidays. He says that it would be presumptuous for him to undertake the matter before he is elected. It is very likely, however, that he has his mind made up regarding some of the more important positions. Owing to the overwhelming majority the Republicans have it will be almost an impossibility for Cantwell to find enough appointments to go round. On the other hand the Democrats are so few in number that many of them will have more committee assignments than they desire if the usual rule obtains in making the appointments. Lieutenant Governor-elect Hugh T. Miller of Columbus is now busily engaged making up his committees, and he will probably be ready to make an announcement soon after the session convenes.

Senator Will H. Wood of Lafayette, known as the father of the merchants' garnishee bills, has announced his intention of trying to have a garnishee law passed. He says he is after the deadbeat and that honest laboring men have nothing to fear. Last session and the session before the garnishee bills were a source of spectacular interest. Senator Wood found himself the center of stinging criticism from labor leaders. He did not give up fighting, however, till they defeated his bills. They did not quit until after Mr. Hanly, the senator's partner, was nominated for governor, as they tried to down him for alleged connection with the movement. Senator Wood believes that the opposition from labor unions will not be so strong this time, as he understands they are coming to realize something of the merchants' side of the affair.

A controversy has arisen over who shall appoint the postmaster here. As the position pays \$6,000 annually it is a matter of considerable importance. General G. W. McGinnis, present incumbent, was appointed four years ago on recommendation of Senator Fairbanks. Senator Beveridge, it has been said, was not consulted. Now the claim is made that Senator Beveridge, who will soon be senior senator, will be permitted to name the postmaster. The proposition is also advanced that there is a precedent in favor of letting the vice president name the postmaster of his own home, which would again place the power in Senator Fairbanks' hands. The outcome of the matter will be awaited with much interest.

Town's First Setback.
Hammond, Ind., Dec. 10.—The thriving little municipality of Indiana Harbor has received its first setback by fire. It was the first time the volunteer fire department had been called into service. A hardware store, livery barn and feed store, all belonging to Otto Seehase, were destroyed. The loss is \$5,000.

Fatally Hurt by His Own Gun.
Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 10.—Mortimer Brooks of New York city, while hunting near Pittsboro, was accidentally and it is believed fatally wounded by the discharge of both barrels of his gun. Mr. Brooks is a millionaire who has been visiting this section for a number of years on hunting expeditions.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Watson*

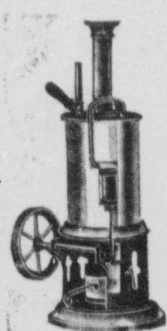
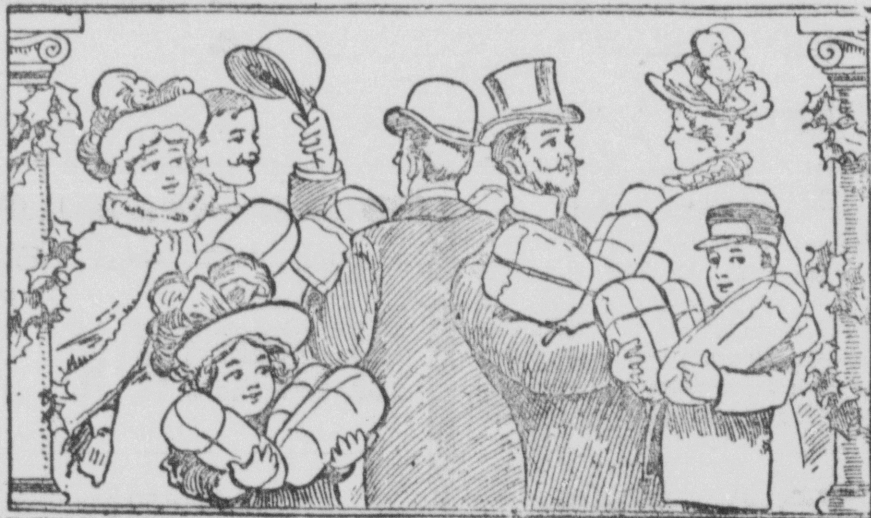
CHRISTMAS TIDE

THE FAIR

HEADQUARTERS FOR HOLIDAY GOODS

Only a few more days in which to do your Holiday shopping. It is a poor policy to wait until the last moment. Not only the assortment will be broken, but the throngs will be so large that considerable discomfort and inconvenience will, of necessity, be unavoidable. It is our advice therefore, that, if possible, you do your shopping at the earliest time.

This year we have a larger and more complete selection of Holiday Goods than we have ever had before. You will find practically everything you can think of, from the least expensive to the most costly article. But come early.



TOYS!
TOYS!
TOYS!

All the new things for this season and the best of the old things. Musical Toys, Mechanical Toys, Iron Toys, Tin Toys, China Toys, Wood Toys. In fact any kind of Toys you want. Don't fail to visit this department and make the little folks happy.

LAMPS.

Our large assortment of Stand and Hanging Lamps cannot fail to please you, and our popular prices insure you a saving by buying here.

CHINA AND GLASSWARE.



We are especially strong in this department, carrying almost anything you call for. Dinner Sets, Toilet Sets, Water Sets, Tea Sets, Salad Dishes, Cake Plates, Sugar and Creams, Berry Sets, Ornaments, Vases, etc. Call early while the stock is complete.



DOLLS
DOLLS
DOLLS

The most complete line of Dolls in Southern Indiana. Big Dolls, little Dolls, dressed Dolls, undressed Dolls, kid Dolls, wax Dolls, China Dolls, Dolls for every girl in Seymour and vicinity.

The Fair Store,

GEO. F. TORMOHLN, Proprietor.

SEYMOUR,

INDIANA.

